

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W
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R 191644Z SEP 73
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6868
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMCONSUL KARACHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 11005

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, IN, IR, PK, US
SUBJ: IRANIAN HELICOPTERS TO PAKISTAN

REF: A) STATE 184976; B) NEW DELHI 10625

1. WE BELIEVE THAT IF PRESS STORIES NOW APPEAR ABOUT IRANIAN HELICOPTERS IN PAKISTAN THEY WOULD NOT PROVOKE MAJOR REACTION HERE. THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT IS AWARE OF THEIR PRESENCE AND HAS REACTED CALMLY (REF B). THE INDIAN PRESS HAS PRINTED STORIES ORIGINATING IN PAKISTAN CLAIMING THAT IRANIAN SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN KILLED FIGHTING BALUCHIS AND A REPORT "RECEIVED IN NEW DELHI" THAT IRAN HAS TRANSFERRED TWO SQUADRONS OF F-5 AIRCRAFT TO PAKISTAN, BUT THERE HAVE EVOKED NO EDITORIAL REACTION AND NO OFFICIAL COMMENTARY.

2. IF EMBASSY RECEIVES PRESS INQUIRIES, WE BELIEVE GUIDANCE PROVIDED IN STATE 177677 IS ADEQUATE. WE WOULD ONLY SUGGEST ADDING SECRETARY KISSINGER'S COMMENTS OF SEPTEMBER 11 THAT "IT IS, IT WOULD BE, AGAINST THE INTENTS OF OUR POLICY IF IRAN USED THESE WEAPONS FOR AGGRESSIVE PURPOSES OR TO INTERVENE IN THE ACTIONS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. THEREFORE THEY ARE FOR SELF-DEFENSE." WE WOULD MAKE THE POINT THAT THE TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF THESE HELICOPTERS AT
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THE REQUEST OF PAKISTAN FOR DOMESTIC LAW AND ORDER USE IS

CONSISTENT WITH THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.
SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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